scan

SHANKILL COMMUNITY AREA NEWSLETTER

JAN/FEB '26

Teamwork in St Anne's School

CONTACT scan

IMPORTANT NOTICE: If you have any comments on any article or wish to contact us our details are:

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Due to space restrictions publication of all articles cannot be guaranteed.

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St Anne's National School

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IN THIS ISSUE...

03 Community Bulletin
04 Citizens Information
05 Bethany Bereavement Support
06 Shankill GAA
08 Shankill FC
09 Shankill Bowling Club
Shankill Tennis Club
10 At Brady's of ShankilL
11 Shankill Tidy Towns
12 Verell Booth: An Appreciation
13 Finance Corner
Shankill & Ballybrack CFR
14 Local Historical Society Lectures
17 An Vatacáin
Shankill Classical Music Club
18 School News: St Anne's NS
20 School News: Rathmichael NS
21 Update from: Cormac Devlin TD
22 School News: Woodbrook College
23 St Anne's Parish
24 School News: Scoil Mhuire
25 Ask a Councillor: Cllr. Carrie Smyth
27 Ask a Councillor: Cllr. Jim Gildea
28 SAGE
29 Shankill Seniors Centre
30 Planning Notices

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COMMUNITY BULLETIN

EDITORIAL

Wishing all our readers a very happy new year. We hope you find something of interest in this issue and indeed if you have anything you would like to share with the Shankill community do feel free to submit it to the editors at ***scanshankill10@gmail.com.***

Congratulations to Dave Griffin, Chairman of Shankill FC, on completing his 15th trip to South Africa with Mellon Educate helping to build schools. See the photo of the Shankill FC jerseys, donated by the club, being sported by students of ACJ Phakade Primary School in Lwandle township outside Capetown.

Some of the articles submitted to SCAN by clubs and community groups are already designed and formatted by them. From time to time the editors spot errors, some are not significant enough to require returning for correction and in some cases time deadlines do not permit revision. Please accept our apologies for these minor errors. If however, you spot any major flaws don't hesitate to bring them to our attention.

Our cover this month features the Media Team at St Anne's School. They are responsible for producing the content about their school for every SCAN issue. All we can say is keep up the good work. Well done Team!

LISTENING EAR - SUPPORT NETWORK FOR SEPARATED AND DIVORCED PEOPLE

The Network is open to persons of any faith and none. Meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 7.30 - 9p.m. in the Resource Centre.

You are welcome to contact 087 3646067 or email listeningear14@gmail.com and a supportive compassionate person in the network will respond and together you can discuss how we can be of help to you.

Complete confidentiality is guaranteed and everyone will be warm and friendly.

NOTE: As the refurbishment works taking place in the Resource Centre may not yet be finished, new members should contact us by phone on the usual day of the meeting to check the venue for it.

AA MEETINGS SHANKILL

Alcoholics Anonymous hosts meetings in Crinken Church Parish Hall every Monday at 8.30 p.m. and in St. Anne's Community Centre (beside St. Anne's Church) every Sunday at 8.30 pm. Doors open around 8.15 pm.

A welcome awaits you.

BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

St. Anne's Resource Centre Shankill
If you are grieving the loss of someone special or have had a loss of any kind and would like to talk to someone, Bethany Bereavement offer free support to adults, with sympathy and compassion in confidence.

We have a drop-in service on the first Friday of each month at 10.30 am or if you prefer, we can meet with you in person. Just call the 01 282 2704 to arrange.

SVP SHANKILL CONFERENCE

Do you need our help?
You can call us directly at 087-696 2785. Alternately, call 01 855 0022 or go online at www.svp.ie.

BOOK SALE - SHANKILL SENIORS CENTRE

The next book sale will be held on Saturday 7th February and the following one on Saturday 7th March. Venue: Shankill Day Care Centre, Lower Road, Shankill. Time 10am-1p.m. Donations of books in good condition are welcome on the day (limited to two bags per person). All proceeds go to support the Centre's programmes and services.

CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Shankill Seniors Centre (SOFA), Lower Road, Shankill. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th February and the March meeting will be on Wednesday 11th. Venue: Shankill Day Care Centre, Lower Road, Shankill. Time 7.45 p.m. Come along and enjoy some lovely music and a cuppa and chat.

SHANKILL LIBRARY

Shankill Library will be closed for approximately three months for essential conservation and improvement works. A temporary Library will operate from Stonebridge Community Centre, Stonebridge Grove, Shankill every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-4pm.

Eds: Thanks to Councillor Carrie Smyth and Cormac Devlin TD for the information.

DO YOU HAVE A SPARE ROOM?

We are recruiting host families!

We are looking for welcoming and friendly homestay providers to host our international students in the area.
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Host when it suits you and earn extra income!

Please send us an email to **accommodation@babelacademy.ie** or call us/text us on WhatsApp at: **+353 85 202 9277** for further details.

AUTO-ENROLMENT RETIREMENT SAVINGS SCHEME – MY FUTURE FUND

Set out below is a brief overview of the new Irish Auto-Enrolment Pension Scheme. Full details are available at www.citizensinformation.ie. or www.gov.ie

What is Auto-enrolment?
Auto-enrolment is a new pension savings scheme for certain employees who are not paying into a pension. They will be automatically included in the scheme but can opt out after 6 months. The introduction of the Auto-Enrolment Retirement Savings Scheme, called My Future Fund, will start from 1 January 2026. Under the scheme, the employee, employer, and Government all pay a certain amount into the employee's pension fund. A new public body, the National Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings Authority, will be set up to administer the Auto-enrolment scheme. The scheme will be supervised by the Pensions Authority. The rules for auto-enrolment are set out in the Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings System Act 2024.

Who will be automatically enrolled?
You will be automatically enrolled in the new pension scheme if you are an employee and: You are aged between 23 and 60; you are not currently part of a pension plan; you earn €20,000 or more per year. If you previously contributed to a pension but now do not, and you meet the other conditions, you will be automatically enrolled. If you earn less than €20,000 per year, or you are not aged between 23 and 60, you can choose to join the pension scheme if you are not already part of a pension plan.

Does my employer have to participate?
If your employer does not meet their auto enrolment obligations, they will be subject to penalties and possibly to prosecution. If they don't make contributions on your behalf, they may be fined and have to make repayments with interest. However, there are no plans to force employers to contribute to personal pensions.

What happens if I already have a workplace pension? - You will not be enrolled in the new auto-enrolment scheme if you are paying into a workplace pension plan.

What happens if I change jobs after being enrolled?
If you change jobs after being automatically enrolled, you won't need to change your pension or join a new scheme. You will remain a member of the auto-enrolment scheme on a 'pot-follows-the-member' basis. You won't have to do anything, as the new National Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings Authority will manage the change.

Is auto-enrolment better than my personal pension?
Whether auto-enrolment or your personal pension is better for you depends on your situation and circumstances. You should review your personal pension and compare it with the benefits of auto-enrolment to see what works best for you.

Can I leave (opt-out of) the pension scheme?
After you are enrolled, you must stay in the pension scheme for at least 6 months. If you opt-out 6 months after you have been enrolled, your contributions will be refunded.

Opting out after a change in contribution rates
If you choose to leave the scheme in month 7 or 8 after a change in contribution rates, you will get a refund. This refund will be based on the difference between your own contributions at the old and new rates during the previous 6 months. This option is only available during the first 10 years of the auto-enrolment scheme, as contribution rates gradually increase. There will be 3 contribution rate changes.

Suspending your contributions
You can also suspend your contributions at any time. In this case, you will not get a refund.

What happens to my savings if I opt-out?
Contributions that are not refunded, including those made by your employer and the Government, stay in your savings pot and will continue to be invested. If you stop working or move abroad at any time before retirement, you will stay enrolled, but you will not make additional contributions. Your existing savings will continue to be invested. This means you can still access a pension pot at retirement.

Automatically re-enrolled after 2 years
If you leave the plan or suspend your contributions, you will be automatically re-enrolled after 2 years if you are still eligible for the scheme. However, if you have an alternative pension plan, you won't be re-enrolled. You can rejoin the plan at any time before the 2 years pass.

How much do I pay?
The amount you pay will be a set rate of your annual salary. Your employer will match your contributions, and the Government will contribute an additional amount. You cannot pay more or less than the set rate. You and your employer will pay 1.5% of your annual salary in the first year. This will increase to 6% by year 10.

The table below sets out the rates you, your employer, and the Government will pay:

Year of the auto-enrolment scheme	Employee Contribution Rate	Employer pays	Government pays
1 to 3	1.5%	1.5%	0.5%
4 to 6	3%	3%	1%
7 to 9	4.5%	4.5%	1.5%
10 and after	6%	6%	2%

Example - The table below includes an example of a worker earning €20,000 a year:

Year of the auto-enrolment scheme	Employee pays	Employer pays	Government pays	Total payments per year
1 to 3	€300	€300	€100	€700
4 to 6	€600	€600	€200	€1,400
7 to 9	€900	€900	€300	€2,100
10 and after	€1,200	€1,200	€400	€2,800

What is the maximum contribution?
For every €3 that you contribute to your pension fund, your employer will put in €3, and the Government will put in €1. This means that for every €3 you contribute, €7 will be added to your account. Both an employer's and the Government's contributions are capped at €80,000 gross annual salary. This means for the first 3 years the maximum amount an employer can contribute is €1,200 a year. This is because 1.5% of €80,000 is €1,200. The maximum amount the Government can contribute is €400 a year, which is 0.5% of €80,000. If you earn over €80,000, you can still contribute but your employer or the Government won't match your contributions on any income over €80,000.

More information - You can watch the Department of Social Protection's videos on auto-enrolment and read its information on auto-enrolment. You can also read frequently asked questions about auto-enrolment. Or, email autoenrolment@welfare.ie for more details.

(Source: www.citizensinformation.ie)The Citizens Information HELPLINE is: 0761 07 4000 - OR - Call in to the Citizens Information Centre at Marina House, Clarence Street, Dun Laoghaire at any time between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm, Monday to Friday. No appointment necessary. Clarence Street is the turning to the right at the traffic lights at the junction of Lower Georges Street, Cumberland Street and York Road, Dun Laoghaire. Citizens Information offers a Free, Confidential and Impartial Service to the citizens of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown on a very wide range of useful issues. OR Phone Dun Laoghaire CIC at:
0761 07 7400

Bethany Bereavement Support

LONELINESS IN GRIEF

Loneliness can be very painful. People often feel lonely during many life changes such as moving house, becoming a new parent, a new job, or retirement. These situations may be seen as joyful occasions but can also bring a sense of loneliness and disconnection. The loneliness we may experience after the death of someone we love can be deep and more enduring than other forms of loneliness. Facing our loneliness is perhaps one of the most difficult problems following loss. Our willingness to face our loneliness is crucial in bereavement.

It is important to deal with our feelings of loneliness, as we may feel it as a sense of emptiness in our deepest self. Being lonely means not having a special person to share our thoughts and experiences with. Not having someone to hold us close or share a meal with. In bereavement, we might experience many emotions including anger at our loved one who is no longer with us. These feelings can be quite normal, but mixed feelings like these can lead to guilt and confusion which may add to our sense of loneliness and isolation. The range of lonely feelings that might surface in us is extensive pain, fear, anger, lack of companionship, isolation, despair, hopelessness, or loss of identity and self-worth.

During the phase of loneliness in grief, it is important to care for ourselves as best we can. Any phase of grief is tiring so try to eat well and get plenty of rest. It can be helpful to accept support from our trusted family and friends. We need to be patient and compassionate with ourselves as we feel the pain of our loss and sadness. Try to identify when you feel lonely, (nights, holidays, mealtimes, or maybe when you are with other couples).

Have a plan for times for when you will be lonely, like evenings, weekends, or on holidays. On weekends you might plan to meet friends or family. You might plan to visit museums, concerts or go on guided walks. Do some light gardening or just sit in the garden and watch the birds. Keep a journal, do something physical, maybe listen to music, get outdoors, do some crafts, write poetry, recite verses, meditate or call someone to talk with, visit the cemetery.

These actions might seem difficult for us to do right now, but they can be very helpful for us. It is important to try to be active and engage with life. We might want to spend time with family members who are also grieving by sharing stories, laughing and crying together which can be therapeutic for all. In time you might like to join a bereavement support group where you can meet others who are grieving and sharing their experiences of loss. This can provide support for you with others who understand what you are going through and whom you can connect with.

Bethany Bereavement Support will be running a five-week program on 9th Feb 2026 from 8.00 – 9.30 pm Monday evenings in St Annes National School Stonebridge Rd, Shankill, D18 AV61 . Places are limited so please ring St Annes Resource Centre phone 01 282 2704 to book. If loneliness persists and your grief feels intense or prolonged you might benefit by talking to your doctor or a counsellor/psychotherapist who can help you to explore your feelings and allow you to begin to live your life more fully again.

CLG na Seanchille

As the evenings begin to grow longer and Spring is on the way we look forward to the new season. However now is the time to reflect on a brilliant year just finished. While all our teams which take to the field are winners the following brought home the silverware.
BOYS: U14 Championship winners; U16 Shield Winners
GIRLS: U13 A League Winners, Championship Runners up & Camogie Championship Winners; U13 B Shield Winners & League Runners up; U15 Championship Winners, Feile Winners & Camogie Shield winners; Under 18 League Winners and adult Ladies Shield Winners.

St Annes School Team Corn Mhic Phiarais Winners
A special mention about our two under 13 girl's teams. Absolutely fantastic the haul of silverware they brought home to Shankill. The number of cups and medals is huge. Hard work and brilliant teamwork well done everyone. Some other teams were close to success with our boys Minor footballers going out in the Championship semi-final and adult men's team with a contentious decision from the County Board.
Disappointments only make us more determined to succeed, a quote from Beckett "Ever tried. Ever failed. No Matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better." Bring on the new season we cannot wait.

Adult Hurling & Camogie
We are putting together adult Hurling and Camogie teams to play in the new season. No matter what your ability or fitness is, we want to hear from you. Haven't played for years, never played, you are welcome. Training has already started. Contact Steve Davis 087 6414123.

Player of the Year
Congratulations to Rory O Kane voted as Men's Player of the Year by his teammates.

Minor Player of the Year
Congratulations to Nate O'Toole voted as Minor Player of the Year by his teammates.

Reindeer Race
Thanks to Core Credit Union for sponsoring the event. Also, to the local community for their support and Bradys of Shankill, Tilly's Coffee & Treats, Shankill FC, Amphibian King, and everyone who took part in the race. Result 1km 1st boy Daniel Baynes 1st girl Anna Moloney. 5km Ladies 1st Edel McCreery Rathfarnham AC, Alannah Douglas 5km Men 1st man James Kelly Liberties Run Club, Stephen Worth Tallaght AC.

Christmas Day Swim
Shankill Financial Services and Shankill GAA Club were delighted to donate €250 to the fundraiser organised by Brian Mason. Well done to all the hardy souls who jumped into the sea and took a battering from mother nature. Great stuff.

Bray Women's Refuge Appeal
Once again, the Shankill community never fail to answer a call for help. Thank you all for your support.

Christmas Trees
May thanks to everyone who bought our Christmas trees, we sold out on the first day.

The Academy
The Academy for both boys and girls aged 4 to 6 years is in Rathmichael School on Saturday mornings from 10.00am to 11.00am. Simply call in and give it a try, you are very welcome.

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FEBRUARY / MARCH 2026 COURSES

501757	Healthcare Major Award	*continuous intake*
518280	Job Success, plan/apply/succeed	*03/02*
476453	Dementia Care (must be employed)	*11/02*
497130	Supervisory Management	*16/02*
497131	Start Your Own Business	*03/03*
497129	Finance to assist Decision Making	*04/03*
499446	Care of the Older Person	*23/03*

**** EVENING COURSES START APRIL, SEE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.***

***free to those on a Social Welfare payment or in employment if the course is certified.*

Enter the course code in the search/keyword box at **www.loughlinstowntrainingcentre.ie**, or Email: **llrecruit@ddletb.ie** for more information or assistance.

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Átha Cliath agus Dhún Laoghaire Education and Training Board

This project is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union.

SHANKILL FC

Part of Our Community

For opportunities on all our boys & girls' teams from U7 to Senior teams and our academies:

Email: info@shankillfc.ie
Web: www.shankillfc.ie
FB: @ShankillFootballClub
X: @ShankillFC
Instagram: @ShankillFootballClub
YouTube: @ShankillFC

Our brand new sand based grass pitch in Stonebridge is looking fantastic already. It may be a while before it is handed back to us, but when it is, our members will be playing on one of the best pitches around. Huge thanks to DLR County Council for making this happen.

Shankill FC Chairperson Dave Griffin recently completed his 15th trip to South Africa building schools with Mellon Educate. While there, he presented the students of ACJ Phakade Primary School in the township of Lwandle outside Cape Town, with some sets of old jerseys from the club. The kids were delighted as they received them and the coaches were over the moon. Part Of Our Community became Part of Their Community. Thanks to all who supported Dave and his son Matthew to help them get to South Africa.

PLAYERS WANTED
SHANKILL FC SENIOR LADIES
OPEN TRAINING INVITE: HIGH LEVEL COACHING REWARDING TRAINING AND S&C. GREAT SOCIAL CRAIC ALL TOWARDS BEING MATCH COMPETITIVE!
MONDAYS IN SHANKILL & WEDNESDAYS IN BALLYOGAN 8-9PM
Contact Coach Declan:
0872700312

SHANKILL FC
PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR
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EVERY SATURDAY & SUNDAY @10AM
ON OUR CLUBHOUSE ASTRO IN SHANGANAGH PARK
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 4 TO 6
CONTACT JON ON 0876904558 OR EMAIL INFO@SHANKILLFC.IE

SHANKILL FC
New Players Wanted
For Our New U9 & U10 Teams
Girls Born 2016 - 2018
Open Sessions
Monday / Wednesday 6pm - 7pm
St. Laurence College / DLR Leisure, Loughlinstown
Register Now 087 6904558
Email info@shankillfc.ie
DLR WAVES

SHANKILL BOWLING CLUB

by Jack Byrne, P.R.O

Happy New Year and the best of luck to all for 2026.
Those of us who participate in the wonderful game of lawn bowling look forward to a better year for honours, whether as individuals or collectively. That eagerness to compete successfully is renewed.

At Shankill Bowling club we enter the Winter leagues run from October to March which gives the club a means to mainly blood new players giving them an idea of what it's like to competitively represent their new club, and at the same time as a means of honing their skills at this excellent game.

Just a few weeks on from our Christmas party celebration our administration gets busy preparing the way for our AGM. There is usually a hunt for members who may be willing to take on the mantle of conducting the affairs of the club for the following twelve months. It is never an easy task in any club but nonetheless a vital one. Our Christmas celebrations were very enjoyable. The majority of bowlers enjoyed an excellent festive meal, and prize giving of various competitions followed by very enjoyable entertainment. All was very well organized by our Shankill Bowling club's social committee .

Winter league progress, at present, sees our Vets 3 squad in a healthy position and they appear to be determined to compete a serious challenge for main honours in the remaining games. Meanwhile, in the other winter campaign Division 3 Saturday, results are somewhat more difficult to obtain due mainly to larger squad numbers leading to constant change of personnel.

Hats off to Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council who were a major help to our bowling club while having drainage problems with our rinks (leading to game postponement). They stepped in to power wash them which subsequently facilitated proper drainage. All club members are now very happy.

Shankill bowling club arranged their annual mixed charity fund raising game for Sunday 4th January 2026, in conjunction with Blackrock Bowling Club, in aid of St.Joseph's Dementia care centre in support of all their wonderful work with families and their loved ones affected by dementia.

Our club holds an open weekend for potential members usually in May /June where we invite people who may have an interest in joining Shankill Bowling Club in what is the ever expanding sport of bowling. We can guarantee those who take up our offer they will not be disappointed. Drop by and give it a try, or visit our website on ***shankillbowlingclub.ie***

SHANKILL TENNIS CLUB

by Club P.R.O

As we welcome the New Year, everyone at Shankill Tennis Club would like to extend our warmest wishes to our local community for a happy, healthy and successful year ahead. We are incredibly grateful for the continued support we receive from members, volunteers, neighbours and friends of the club, and we are delighted to share some positive news as we begin another exciting year.

One of the standout successes of the past year has been the development of our new padel courts. Since opening, they have been met with fantastic enthusiasm from both existing members and new faces from the wider community. Padel has proven to be a fun, social and accessible sport for all ages and abilities, and we are thrilled to see the courts so well used. Importantly, the panel courts are open to everyone; you do not need to be a club member to book a court, and we warmly encourage the local community to come along, give it a try and enjoy this growing sport.

We are also extremely proud to announce that Shankill Tennis Club has been awarded the Tennis Ireland Gold Award, a significant recognition that reflects the accessibility, efficiency and inclusive ethos of our club. This achievement is a testament to the extraordinary amount of volunteer work that goes on behind the scenes. From coaching support and administration to maintenance and event organisation, our volunteers are the backbone of the club.

The Gold Award also recognises the effort and care that goes into the tournaments hosted here in Shankill, which continue to attract players and visitors while showcasing the welcoming spirit of our club. In addition, we are especially proud of our strong focus on disability tennis that occurs each week. Ensuring that tennis is accessible all remains a core value of Shankill Tennis Club, and we are committed to continuing and expanding this important work.

As we look ahead, we are excited for another year of sport, community involvement and shared success. Whether you are a long-standing member, a new padel player, a volunteer, or simply a neighbour passing by, thank you for being part of the Shankill Tennis Club story. We look forward to welcoming many more of you through our gates in the year ahead.

NOLLAIG NA MBAN 2026 AT BRADY'S OF SHANKILL: A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

by Emma O'sullivan *(General Manager)*

Brady's of Shankill once again played host to a sold-out Nollaig na mBan celebration, which booked out in early November. Women from the local community and surrounding areas gathered for an evening dedicated to relaxation, laughter, and well-earned festivity. The night began in style with a welcoming glass of Prosecco, setting the perfect tone as pianist Keith o Connell, created a warm and elegant atmosphere. After weeks of preparation leading up to Christmas, this was the ladies' moment to unwind and they certainly embraced it.

A delicious three-course meal was followed by an unforgettable performance from The Cazettes, who had the party in full swing in no time. The dance floor never emptied, and DJ Barry kept the energy high long into the night, ensuring the celebrations carried on with great spirit.

Events like this simply wouldn't happen without the dedication and support of many.

A special word of thanks goes to John Brady, the entire management team, Jackie Williams, Doreen Brady, and Jackie O'Neill, who supported the charity Children in Hospital Ireland on the night ,raising over €950 on the night. And of course, heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful women who attended and made the evening so memorable.

Thank you all for making Nollaig na mBan 2026 a night the village was talking about!

Tallaght Outlet
phone: 01-4940200

Opening Times
Mon - Sat (10.00am - 5.00pm)
Sun & Bank Holidays - Closed
Unit B7, South City Business Pk, Tallaght, D24

Ballybrack Outlet
phone: 01-2720788

Opening Times
Mon - Sat (10.00am - 5.30pm) Thurs 7.30 pm
Sun - Closed (Bank Hols 2.00pm - 5.30pm)
Church Road, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin

Shankill TidyTowns — Glanbhaile Seanchill

How will Shankill Evolve in the Future?

One obvious conclusion from reading last year's TidyTowns adjudicator's report is that Shankill TidyTowns should focus more on its future plans for the area. Looking at the judging categories, this could include addressing issues such as:

- **Community**: How will we preserve and enhance community spirit in Shankill?
- **Streetscape & Public Places**: How will ensure that the Village remains at the heart of the community, while linking the widely dispersed public buildings?
- **Green Spaces & Landscaping**: Can we keep our existing open spaces while adding new ones?
- **Nature & Biodiversity**: This might include protecting local streams, meadows and coasts and developing community gardens.
- **Sustainability**: Possible focus on recycling, more efficient transport and reducing waste and energy use.
- **Tidiness & Litter Control**: Identifying and improving untidy places, and litter and graffiti blackspots.
- **Residential Streets & Housing Areas**: Working with residents' groups to enhance local areas.
- **Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes**: Some of our granite walls are looking somewhat neglected.

Many of these plans will be impacted by the outcome of the proposed BusConnects Corridor through Shankill and by future developments in the Rathmichael area. A Local Area Plan has been approved for Old Connaught and one is being prepared for Rathmichael, which stretches from John Scottus School on Ferndale Road to the N11 at Loughlinstown.

While these developments will eventually result in significant housebuilding, this may be delayed until appropriate infrastructure is in place or, at least, substantially progressed. New roads, active travel networks and public transport systems will be part of this infrastructure. A possible indicative plan was shown in the 2025 Iinfrastructure Capacity Assessment Study - Area Based Transport Assessment of the area. However, a map from the more recent Old Connaught LAP shows that this is subject to change as the LUAS corridor has moved westward from east side of the N11 to a new route which appears to track Ballybride Road and then head due south towards Old Connaught. The proposed road system may assume new access to the M50 at Junction 16, but this may not be approved with the M50 "maxxed out".

Another major transport project, the BusConnects Bus Corridor could also have a major impact. During 2025, concerned residents contributed over €50,000 to fund a judicial review but it appears that this will take time. With several major transport projects being deferred, perhaps there will be greater questioning of which projects deliver real value for money.

Possible Future Road Network in Rathmichael and Old Connaught
Infrastructure Capacity Assessment Study - Area Based Transport Assessment 2025

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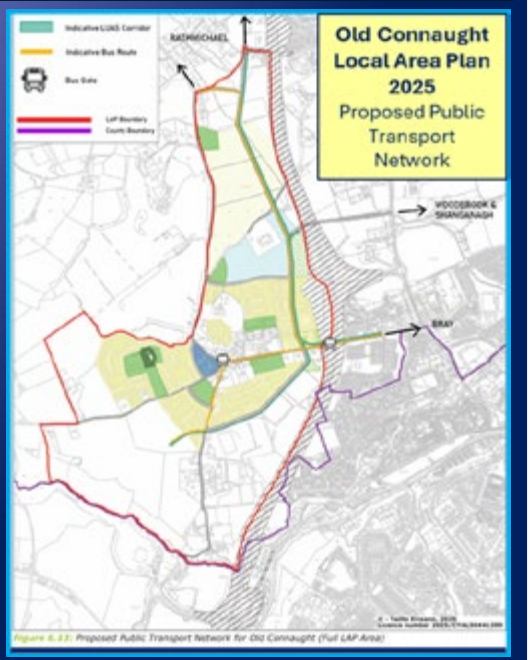

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VERELL BOOTH: AN APPRECIATION *(1919-2024)*

by Ian Booth & Hilary Walsh

Verell Booth was born on 8th April 1919 in a nursing home in Dublin. For the first ten years of her life she lived with her family at Martello Terrace, Bray. (This terrace was owned by her grandfather). In 1929 the family moved to "Lonsdale" on the Meath Road in Bray. She had a very happy childhood there; she and her brother Peter had far more freedom than modern children have. They spent a lot of their time playing around the harbour, watching the coal being unloaded from the steamers which docked at the north pier, talking to the sailors, intrigued by the opportunity of seeing into the hull of a real ship, getting filthy with coal dust.

At eleven or twelve years old, they and some friends would take off on their bikes for the whole day to somewhere like the Rocky Valley, or Enniskerry or go for hikes wherever the notion took them. During their teen years Verell and Peter had a 14' rowing boat – later equipped with a Seagull outboard motor – which was kept in Bray Harbour.

The world was safer then; the pace was slower. But it was not all sweetness and light. There was real poverty; she remembers hearing the slapping of bare feet on the wet and muddy pavement as young boys ran from Bray station with the evening papers shouting "Herry or Mayul" (Herald or Mail), racing to sell them in the town for a penny each.

Verell first went to school in Miss Galway's in Bray from the age of five. Between the ages 10 to 16 she attended the French School in Sidmonton Place, Bray. For the last 2 years of her secondary education she went to Penrhos College, in Colwyn Bay, Wales. (Her mother had been there as well).

On leaving school she enrolled in the National College of Art as she was interested in Fashion and Design. She was advised to attend Life Classes. After two years she stopped because she felt she wasn't good enough. She switched to a secretarial course and she got a job in Switzer's Library. (This was the only paid work she ever did!) Verell met her future husband Sydney Booth at a house party when she was seventeen. He approached her saying, "Are you Miss Williamson? I believe we have met before but you might not remember me because you were only two years old!"

Verrell was in Switzer's for only a week when she developed a serious pain in her back which turned out to be TB of the spine. The year was 1939 and as antibiotics were not generally available yet, the cure for TB was fresh air and, in her case, enforced immobility. So from the age of twenty and for four years, she was laced into a frame to maintain no movement of her back.

She had to eat, drink, sleep, wash and go to the toilet while in this frame. To help pass the time she was an avid reader which she continued, at times, throughout her life. Her father had a hut built in the garden. It was mounted on a circular rail so it could be turned to face the sun. Her frame was placed on a special trolley so she could be moved from the house to the hut using a ramp. During the summer she would spend day and night in the hut which was equipped with electrical points and lights.

The time of her illness was during World War 2 and she felt terribly vulnerable when German bombers flew past, up the coast, to bomb Dublin or Belfast. Several of her friends joined the R.A.F. and all were killed in action. By age twenty-four, she had made a good recovery but had to wear a spinal brace, not unlike a corset, for a further three years. Sydney, her boyfriend, was loving, kind and attentive in supporting her throughout her illness. They married in 1946. She was twenty-seven years old. Two years after their marriage Verell and Sydney bought a house in Shankill and raised a family there. We are her children, Ian and Hilary.

During her married life Verell took a lively and active interest in national issues. She became seriously involved in the campaign to stop the building of a nuclear power station at Carnsore Point. On another occasion she voiced the opinion that a new reservoir should be constructed in the Dublin Mountains to serve the ever increasing population in Dublin city.

In her fifties, she put her college of art skills to good use, first in oil painting, then pastel, charcoal, and line drawing. She took off in the car, with two dogs to various locations to capture the landscape wherever she happened to stop. This continued when she and dad went on holiday to Achill. Some of her commissions are to be seen in The Bervie guesthouse there. She reckoned that she sold over two hundred works in all.

Over the years she used her skills, talent and energy as an artist, writer, organiser and motivator for the benefit of her local community. Nowhere was this more evident than in the creation and development of Shankill Old Folks Association (S.O.F.A.) and its offspring, Shankill Seniors Centre, a major project. This centre provides cooked meals, social outings and a programme of activities for its elderly members on a weekly basis. There's no denying that Verell's input as a founding member, fundraiser and Chairperson for forty years was central to its success. Verell was also a founder member of the Rathmichael Parish Dramatic Society which was founded in 1964 and featured in many plays. She had a hidden talent for this as she could really take on the persona of the parts. Verell had an interest in creative writing too, and having seen a brochure for the Kilternan Adult Education Centre which offered a creative writing class she decided to give it a shot and never looked back. So at the age of eighty she learned to use a word processor and started to write short stories and poems. When she was eighty-five she graduated to a desktop computer and continued writing until she reached a hundred and two, by which time arthritis in her hands made typing too difficult. During twenty odd years she wrote over seventy-five poems, a one act play and short stories. She also contributed to the RTE radio programme Liveline, by invitation from Joe Duffy, on the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II's passing in September 2022.

During Verrell's married life she was rarely sick - until late 2022 when two infections necessitated stays in hospitals. She spent some time in a Nursing Home in Bray returning home permanently in January 2024. In April 2024 she was admitted to hospital with pneumonia. She celebrated her one hundred and fifth birthday there. Unfortunately her health declined further, and she passed in the early hours of April 17th 2024.

We were incredibly fortunate to have had a great mother and father who nurtured us and prepared us for all that life would throw at us.

FINANCE CORNER

by Shankill Financial Services

What is the best way to invest for my child or grandchild while making use of the €3,000 small gift tax exemption each year?

Investing for children can be a powerful way to build long-term financial security, and when combined with the effective use of the gift tax allowance through a policy written in a bare trust, it can also offer valuable tax planning benefits. This approach is commonly used by parents and grandparents who wish to pass wealth to the next generation in a structured and tax-efficient way.

One of the key benefits of investing for children is time. Children typically have a long investment horizon, which allows investments to benefit from compound growth. Even relatively modest contributions can grow significantly over 10, 15, or 20 years. Investing early can help fund future costs such as university fees, a first home deposit, or simply provide a strong financial foundation in adulthood.

From a tax planning perspective, Ireland offers a useful incentive through the small gift tax exemption. Currently, an individual can gift up to €3,000 per year per beneficiary without it counting towards the child's lifetime CAT threshold. This allowance can be used by each parent or grandparent, allowing families to transfer substantial value over time completely free of CAT. For example, a €3,000 per year annual contribution from each parent (€6,000 total) to a child is the equivalent of a monthly investment of €500 per month. When these gifts are invested rather than held in cash, any growth occurs outside the donor's estate and does not erode the child's CAT threshold.

Using an investment policy with a bare trust is a straightforward and effective way to structure these gifts. A bare trust means the child is the absolute beneficial owner of the gifted money from the outset, even though trustees manage the investment on the child's behalf until they reach age 18.

A policy held under a bare trust also provides practical and administrative benefits. Trustees can oversee investment decisions, ensuring the fund is managed appropriately for the child's long-term needs, while the trust documentation clearly evidences that a gift has been made. This clarity is important for tax purposes, as it supports the application of the small gift exemption and ensures the investment and its growth are attributed to the child.

For more information on availing of the small gift exemption contact your local financial advisor.

Shankill & Ballybrack Community First Responders

Registered Charity Number: 20200526

As we look back on 2025, we do so with enormous pride and gratitude! It was a record-breaking year for the Shankill Ballybrack Community First Responder group, made possible by the dedication of our volunteers and the continued support of the community.

Throughout the year, our responders attended 418 emergency call-outs, giving an incredible 3,357 hours of voluntary service. Every response represents a neighbour helping a neighbour during what is often one of the most difficult moments of their lives.

Of these call-outs, nearly one third were related to heart or chest pain. This is why CPR training remains such a vital part of our work. Immediate CPR means improved outcomes in cardiac emergencies, and equipping people with these skills can make a real difference before professional help arrives. In 2025, we trained a record-breaking 606 community members in CPR — an achievement that shows the strength of community spirit in Shankill, Ballybrack, and surrounds.

We will be announcing new public CPR Hands for Life training dates very soon. In the meantime, we are always happy to arrange private CPR training sessions for groups, clubs, workplaces, or organisations. Contact us by email for further details: ***info@shankillcfr.ie***

Looking ahead, 2026 promises to be a very special year as we celebrate our 10th anniversary. We are excited about what lies ahead and look forward to celebrating this milestone with the community that has supported us every step of the way.

Follow us on Instagram @shankillballybrackcfr and Facebook @shankillandballybrackcfr for updates on training, events, and anniversary celebrations.

HISTORY: LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY LECTURES

by James Scannell

MOUNT MERRION HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Niall Watts will present *'William Magrath, Escape from a POW camp'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday February 5th in the Fitzwilliam Rooms, Mount Merrion Community Centre, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin. Admission is €5/Students €2.

THE MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY OF IRELAND
Dr. Padraig Lenihan will present *'The Dark Legacy of Badajoz (1812). A Tale of Heroism and Horror'* on Friday February 6th, and Comdt. Larry Scallan *'The Mons Star to the Royal Irish Regiment'* on Friday February 27th. Both lectures take place at 8 p.m. in Griffith College, South Circular Road, Dublin 8.
All are welcome - admission is free.

TALLAGHT HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Dr. Ronan P. Kelly will present *'The College of Surgeons'* at 7 p.m. on Tuesday February 10th in St. Maelruan's Church of Ireland Parish Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24. All are welcome.

THE OLD DUBLIN SOCIETY
Joseph E. A. Connell, Jnr, will present *'How Michael Collins used the politics of violence in Dublin during the War of Independence'* on Wednesday February 11th, and Rob Goodbody *'Dublin Industrial Heritage: From Sandymount Strand to Crumlin Road'* on Wednesday February 25th. Both lectures take place at 6 p.m. in the Conference Room, Dublin City Library & Archive, 139-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All are welcome – admission is free and no booking is required.

KILMACUD-STILLORGAN LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Frank Tracy will present *'Ireland's Ancient Stones: Silent Windows to the Past'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday February 12th in St. Lawrence's Parish Centre, Lower Kilmacud Road, Stillorgan, Co. Dublin. Members are free – visitors are €3. Please note that there is a car parking charge of €1 per hour at this venue – coin payment only

FOXROCK LOCAL HISTORY CLUB
Cormac F. Lowth will present *'A History of Lifeboats in Dublin Bay'* at 8 p.m. on Tuesday February 17th in Foxrock Parish Pastoral Centre, Foxrock, Co. Dublin. All are welcome – admission is €5. Myles Reid will present *'Sir Henry Robinson, 1st Baronet of Lis na Carrig, Foxrock'* at 6.30 p.m. on Monday February 23rd in Deansgrange Library, Clonkeen Drive, Deangrange. Admission is free but booking is required at 01-2047218.

DUN LAOGHAIRE BOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Mairtin Mac Con Iomaire will present *'Making of the Irish Food Industry'* at 8 p.m. on Wednesday February 18th in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All are welcome - admission is €5. Free hotel parking is available for those attending this lecture.

BRAY CUALANN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Bill Nelson will recall *'The French Girl Guide Plane Crash of 1946'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday February 19th in the Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All are welcome – members are free - visitors/members €8

DUBLIN BAY OLD GAFFERS ASSOCIATION
Richard McCormack will present *'A Life in Deep Sea Trawling'* at 8 p.m. on Thursday February 19th in the Poolbeg Yacht and Boat Club, Ringsend Road, Dublin 4. All are welcome - donation to the R.N.L.I. at the door.

CLONDALKIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Rob Goodbody will present *'The Lead Mines of Glendalough and Ballycorus'* at 8 p.m. on Monday February 23rd in Áras Chrónáin – Irish Cultural Centre, Watery Lane, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin. All are welcome – admission is €5.

THE IRISH RAILWAY RECORD SOCIETY
The Society's Library will only be open from 6.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. only on Tuesday February 10th. Owen Fanning will present *'Railway Ambush Tactics in The Irish Civil War'* at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday February 26th in the Society's Dublin Hueston premises. Strictly members and their guests only.

SHANKILL: LOOKING BACK

SALARY MATTERS
At the Wednesday January 9th 1901 meeting of the Rathdown No. 1 Rural District Council, which administered the seven Co. Dublin divisions of the Rathdown Union for Dublin County Council, held in the former external boardroom building in St. Columcille's Hospital, the Local Government Board indicated its approval of the Council's decision to increase the annual salary of Sanitary Dub-Officer Mr. P. Dempsey from £4.4s. to £10, but did not approve of the proposal to pay Relieving Officer Mr. O'Mahony £3 a year to collect rents from the labourer's cottage in Ballybrack as this amounted to 25% of the rents collected so the Council rescinded this proposal to conform with the Local Government Board's decision.

RATHMICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Richard Ryan

We hope all our readers had a happy Christmas and New Year celebration. Our last lecture in 2025 was on the topic of Rock Art and was delivered by Finola Finlay.

Finola described how her interest in this subject, little studied at the time, led to her Masters degree thesis in 1973. Following a period living in Canada, she came back to Ireland and in recent years has been able to return to her original interest, the study of Rock Art.

In a well-constructed lecture, she explained the difference between Rock Art and Megalithic Art, such as that prominently on view at Newgrange and Knowth. Rock Art is rarely carved on monuments such as these but is almost always carved on natural rock formations in remote mountain areas (but not on the mountain tops).

Using beautiful photographs, many taken by Ken Williams, Finola showed in great detail the motifs carved into the stone by these ancient artists using stone tools. We do not know what these motifs mean or why they were carved. It is thought that they date from the Neolithic and also possibly from the Bronze Age. It is possible that the more elaborate and artistic patterns on the Megalithic monuments evolved from the seemingly haphazard and random motifs of Rock Art.

The New Year started with a stimulating lecture by Harman Murtagh entitled, "The Irish Jacobite Army 1689-91". This conflict was known as The War of the Three Kings. The three kings were James II, William III and Louis XIV of France. Their rivalry involving dynastic, religious and geo-political conflict came to a head in Ireland in this period. This was, and remains, Ireland's only significant theatre for a European war. 100,000 in total died in the war, including 26,000 combatants.

Our lecturer described in great detail the composition of the Jacobite army – musketeers, pikemen, grenadiers, dragoons and cavalry – and how they were deployed in battle.

After the 1691 defeats in Aughrim and Limerick, the Irish soldiers and their families were allowed to sail to France where they served in Irish regiments in the French army. The current French army 92nd infantry regiment is a direct descendent of these Irish regiments and their colours reflect that heritage. This is now an elite unit focussing on rapid deployment and advanced warfare using drones and robotic devices. Patrick Sarsfield would have been impressed!

The remaining lectures in our programme are as follows:

- Wednesday, 4th February: AGM followed by short talk On the Trail of Lafcadio Hearn by Richard Ryan.
- Wednesday, 4th March: The Irish Ringforts after Three Decades by Matthew Stout.
- Wednesday, 4th April: The Houses of Meath by Aisling Durkan.

All talks are at 8pm in Rathmichael School, Stonebridge Road, Shankill, Co.Dublin and are wheelchair-accessible. Non-members are welcome to attend our talks on payment of a €5 entrance fee which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. The talks are also accessible on Zoom.

See website for further information:
www.rathmichaelhistoricalsociety.ie

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AN VATACÁIN

by Bríd Brien

Dhá bhliain ó shin, chuaigh mise agus m'fhear céile chun na Vatacáine. D'eitil muid go dtí an Róimh agus an mhaidin ina dhiaidh sin, bhí muid in ár suí go moch. Sheachain muid na scuainí fada a bheadh ann níos déanaí. Chonaiceamar an Baldacchino, an ceannbhrat ollmhór cré-umha a rinne Gina Lorenzo atá os cionn an phríomh altóra agus uaigheanna na bPápaí. Dhreapaigh muid suas go dtí barr an chruinneacháin. B' iontach an radharc a bhí againn ón mbarr, an chearnóg phlódaithe agus go deimhin an chathair go léir. Tháinig an Pápa go dtí an fhuinneog agus thosaigh na sluaite ag scairteadh. Thug sé a theachtaireacht seachtainiúil dúinn. Bhí ár súile greamaithe dó. Cúpla nóiméad ina dhiaidh sin, bhí sé in ár measc ag bogadh ar fud na cearnóige ina Phápa Soghluaiste agus ag croitheadh a láimhe chugainn.

Le cúpla lá anuas, thug muid cuairt ar an Séipéal Sistíneach agus ar Mhúsaeim na Vatacáine. Seoda i measc sheoda na Róimhe ársa. Ansin ar aghaidh linn chuig na háiteanna suntasacha eile: An
Colasaem, An Fóram Rómhánach & Cnoc na Palatíne, an Pantheon, Séadchomhartha Vittorio Emanuele II agus Tobar Trevi.
Mura raibh tú ann cheana, mholfainn go láidir duit dul ann.

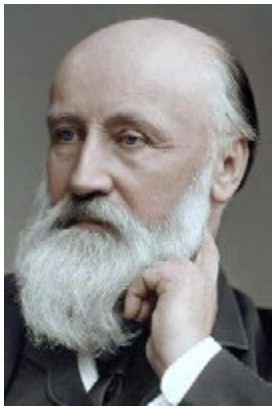
An Ghluais: suí go moch / suí go luath / up early: Sheachain muid / we avoided: scuaine / queue: an ceannbhrat ollmhór cré-umha / the huge metal canopy/ cruinneachán / dome: ag scairteadh / ag béiceadh: greamaithe dó / dírithe air / fixed or stuck on him / soghluaiste/ mobile: Le cúpla lá anuas / ina dhiaidh sin: ársa / iontach sean / ancient: suntasach / iontach, ar leith / amazing: séadchomhartha / monument.

NOTE: *An Irish conversation group meets every Friday in Bradys from 11 to 12. Tabhair cúpla focal Gaeilge leat.*

Tá fáilte romhat.

SHANKILL CLASSICAL MUSIC CLUB

by Malcolm Fitzell



Robert Prescott Stewart, 1825 – 1894

The relatively little known Dublin-born composer Robert Prescott Stewart (1825 – 1894) was appointed organist at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, at the age of 19, a position he held until his death. He was also organist for a time at nearby St Patrick's Cathedral, whilst Professor of Music at Trinity College, Dublin, and Professor at the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

The Shankill Classical Music Club's December programme entitled "Some Decca Decades in December", presented by John Ashworth, opened with Stewart's "If Ye Love Me", sung by the Choir of Christ Church, Dublin. This brief, devotional work set a calm and reflective tone, before the mood shifted to chamber music with the final movement of Robert Schumann's Piano Quartet in E-flat major. Played by the Beaux Arts Trio with Dolf Bettelheim and Samuel Rhodes, this work remains one of the great pillars of the Romantic repertoire.

Orchestral colour followed in Francis Poulenc's witty and elegant Les Biches, conducted by Charles Dutoit, and in Haydn's operatic scena Acide e Galatea, featuring the distinguished partnership of Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau and the Wiener Haydnorchester. Alexander Borodin's String Quartet No. 2 brought a lyrical contrast, its gentle finale being a particular highlight.

A powerful orchestral emphasis continued with the finale from Sibelius' Fifth Symphony, played by the London Symphony Orchestra, and Wagner's Lohengrin Prelude to Act I, recorded live at Bayreuth under Wolfgang Sawallisch. We then heard Mahler's Um Mitternacht, memorably sung by Kathleen Ferrier with Bruno Walter conducting the Vienna Philharmonic, followed by Dvořák's Hussite Overture, conducted by István Kertész, which brought drama and national colour to the programme.

Operatic exuberance returned with Donizetti's famous chorus "La la la – chacun le sait" from La Fille du Régiment, featuring a stellar Covent Garden cast including Joan Sutherland and Luciano Pavarotti. The evening drew to a seasonal close with John Tavener's A Christmas Round and Ryūichi Sakamoto's haunting Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence, offering stillness and reflection as Christmas approached.

The Shankill Classical Music Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 7:45pm in Shankill Senior's Centre, Lower Road, Shankill, D18 HW95. All with an interest in good music are most welcome.

SCHOOL NEWS: ST ANNE'S NS

Media Team
Did you know that our Media Team writes the content for each SCAN issue? We are students from 4th, 5th and 6th class. We brainstorm ideas for what we think would be good to feature on our page in SCAN. We complete interviews for more information and then we get to type our content.
Here is a picture of the full team.

Choir *by Daniel Baynes and Molly Dodd*
On the 11th of December 2025, three schools in Shankill came together to hold a carol service in the local church. The three schools were St Anne's, Rathmichael, and Scoil Mhuire. The only students participating were those in 5th class. The service began at 7:00 p.m. and the church was jam-packed. Some of the songs performed included The First Noel, Away in a Manger, Winter Carol, and Winter Wonderland. There were also several soloists from all three schools who sang beautiful pieces throughout the service. The carol service ended at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Students in the spotlight

We wished huge congratulations and good luck to Lucy Verso, Juila Podsiaaldo and Ava Cummins who are representing Saint Anne's in the Leinster Junior Schools swimming competition on the 18th of January at the National Aquatic Centre competing against many schools across Leinster, They hope to go on to represent the school in the Irish Minor school competition in March competing against many other schools.

Student Champion
Huge well done to Lucybelle who was Saint Anne's champion for the DLR annual recycled Christmas decoration competition. She was invited to an awards ceremony in the DLR offices in Dun Laoghaire.

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SCHOOL NEWS: RATHMICHAEL NS

After the excitement of the Christmas Holidays and a frosty start to the New Year, the children are settling back into school life.

Some of the highlights of November included Science Week – the children really enjoyed the science experiments – thank you to all of the staff for making the week so memorable for them and for bringing science to life. We participated in the Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal and donated 128 filled boxes to help bring joy to children affected by poverty in Eastern Europe and Africa. We also had a visit to school from the CEO of Fields of Life to demonstrate to the children what a difference their contributions make in the lives of two children we sponsor in Uganda. Author, Carmel Kelly visited 3rd and 4th Classes, on 11th November to give her presentation on RNS Leinster as part of the Heritage in Schools Programme. The children found it very illuminating and informative.

In December, we were delighted to take part in the Crinken Church Christmas Tree Festival - "Journey to Bethlehem". 2nd Class children created Shepherds and their sheep and a group representing the class decorated the Rathmichael School tree.

Our school entrance doors looked very festive thanks to the wonderful artwork of one of our parents, Laura.

On 5th December, our Junior and Senior Infants gave two wonderful performances of their Nativity Play (one for the school and one for parents). 1st and 2nd Classes gave a beautiful performance of Christmas Songs for their parents on 11th December. A huge amount of work goes into these events and my thanks goes to the teachers and SNAs for all their work in preparing the children and in putting on the production.

The children in 5th Class took part in an amazing Carol Service with St. Anne's NS and Scoil Mhuire, held in St. Anne's Church on the evening of 11th December. It was wonderful to see children from the three schools singing together. We are very proud of the children.

On 15th December, Barry Ward, TD and Senior Counsel and a 6th Class parent, Mark Homan, came into school to undertake a mock trial with 6th Class. The children really enjoyed the arguments and the debates and got a great insight into the workings of a court.

Our end of term Christmas Assembly for our senior classes was held on 18th December in Rathmichael Church. Thank you to our Music teacher, Naomi, to Rev Sean, the teachers and the pupils for all their hard work which made the service such a special occasion. Thanks in particular to our soloists and readers and also to all the parents who attended.

Congratulations to Harry C for being selected as the 2nd prize winner in the recent Core Credit Union Art Competition in the Age 8 and under category. Well done to Jordi BM for his amazing achievements in the boxing ring in early December, taking part in an event to showcase Irish elite boxers as well as some up and coming Dublin youths. This was headlined by Kellie Harrington.

The Boy's Hockey Team and the Football Team had successful outings during the term and are excited for more matches to come. The Girl's Hockey teams had their first matches against very strong opposition and are looking forward to their next games. The 5th and 6th Classes Boys Olympic Handball team played in a tournament in Ringsend on 2nd December and Coach Eoin Greaves was very proud of the spirit the boys showed.

The last day of term saw all the children wearing Christmas Jumpers and bright colours and the PTA provided popcorn and hot chocolate so it was a fun filled, exciting day. The PTA also hosted a Coffee morning for parents in conjunction with a Christmas raffle. Earlier in the month the first PTA event of the year was held – a Thermomix evening - all those who attended thoroughly enjoyed the cooking demonstrations and the refreshments.

We look forward to more events and activities in this Spring term.

Naomi Rousseau *(Principal)*

UPDATE FROM: CORMAC DEVLIN, TD

I hope you are all keeping well. It is wonderful to see the days getting longer and the first signs of spring after the winter months. As always, if I can be of any assistance, please get in touch.

◆ **INCREASING CHILDCARE PROVISION IN SHANKILL**
The shortage of childcare places in Shankill has become a serious issue over the past year. I have been working closely with the **Minister for Children, Norma Foley**, to increase capacity in the area.

The Minister and her officials are engaging with Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown County Council and hope to finalise arrangements for a new facility shortly. This will be very positive news for parents in Shankill.

◆ **SHANKILL LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS**
Shankill Library will be closed for approximately three months for essential conservation and improvement works funded by the Government.

A temporary library service will operate from **Stonebridge Community Centre, D18 E2V1**, every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10am to 4pm.

For more information, call **(01) 204 7224** or email *shankilllib@dlrcoco.ie.*

◆ **ST ANNE'S NATIONAL SCHOOL**
Funding has been approved for a new **Special Education Classroom** at St Anne's National School under the Department of Education's **Additional School Accommodation Scheme**.

◆ **INCREASED FUNDING FOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**
The Government has allocated over **€200,000** to support local organisations in Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown through the **Local Enhancement Programme (LEP)**.

These grants can support small capital works and help groups carry out essential repairs, as well as purchase equipment such as tables, chairs, laptops, printers, and outdoor items like lawnmowers and canopies. Funding is also available for larger projects that address disadvantage in the community.

The deadline for applications is **Friday, 27th February 2026.** More information is available at *www.dlrcoco.ie*.

◆ **Fuel Allowance Thresholds Increased from 1st January**
Good news for households this winter. From **1st January,** the income limits for qualifying for the **Fuel Allowance** have increased, meaning more people can now access support with heating costs.

For people aged **66 and over**, the weekly income threshold is now **€534 for a single person** and **€1,068 for a couple**. For those **under 66**, the new limits are **€499.30 for a single person, €698.70 for a couple** where both are **under 66**, and **€767.70 where one partner is over 66.**

The weekly Fuel Allowance payment has also increased to **€38.**

These changes reflect ongoing cost-of-living pressures and aim to better support older people, low-income households,

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and families during the colder months. If you think you may now qualify, it is worth checking your eligibility or submitting a new application. My office is happy to help.

◆ **MyFutureFund Launched – A Stronger Future for Workers**
MyFutureFund, Ireland's new automatic enrolment pension scheme, is now live and will provide long-term financial security to over **760,000 workers** who previously had no workplace pension. Eligible employees are automatically enrolled. Workers contribute **1.5%** of their pay, their **employer matches it**, and the **State provides a top-up**. This means small weekly contributions can quickly grow into meaningful retirement savings.

All savings belong to the employee from day one, with no vesting period, and the funds stay with the worker even if they change jobs.

A new online portal allows people to track their contributions, view employer and State top-ups, and manage their account using MyGovID.

MyFutureFund makes pension saving simple, affordable, and accessible, helping people enjoy a more secure retirement.

◆ **Keeping in Touch**
My monthly **Advice Clinic** takes place in **Brady's of Shankill** on the last Saturday of each month, excluding Bank Holidays.

To make an appointment, please contact **Michael Reynolds** in my office on **01 275 0786** or email *cormac@cormacdevlin.ie*.

SCHOOL NEWS: WOODBROOK COLLEGE

A SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY

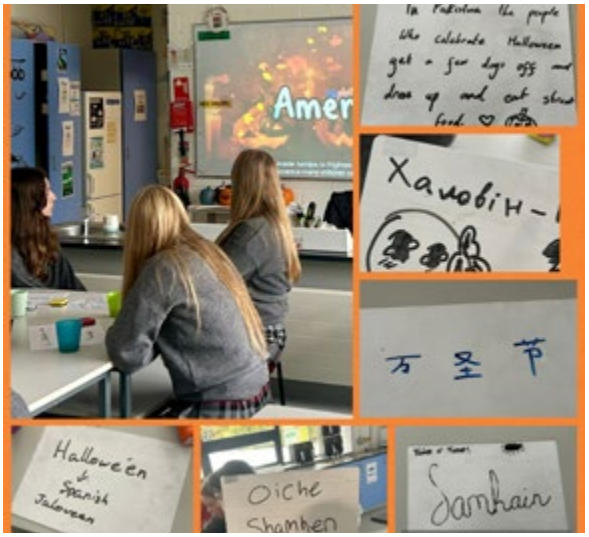
School of Sanctuary is a programme designed to promote a safe and inclusive learning environment, and to make our school a place of welcome and inclusion for all. It came to the attention of our Home Economics teacher Ms. Cluskey when she was asked, as part of the Parents' Association in a primary school, to be involved with the ceremony in which the school was championed as a 'School of Sanctuary'. She loved the idea, and with the permission of our principal Mr. Hurley, put together a core team of teachers to incorporate School of Sanctuary into lessons. These included studying the work of refugee artist Petrit Haliliaj in Art class, a statistics project on refugees in 6th year maths class, and a student debate on refugees.

Ms. Cluskey also set up 'Culture Club' which has grown from only two students to more than twenty! They have organised many events in the school, including a Science Poster competition, Bingo and many more. Our school has a vast diversity of people, with 28 different nationalities represented through our students, and 30% of students speaking a language other than English at home.

Ms. Cluskey worked with many of these students' parents to create the Savvy Suppers recipe book, with a collection of affordable multicultural meals.

Beyond that, we have three sensory rooms located in The Hub to assist with Support for Learning (SFL) and Stand-Up Week events to educate people about and include the LGBTQIA+ community in our school community. Ms. Cluskey and her team have done excellent work in the school and have really made Woodbrook College a place for all!

Applications for transfer of students to Woodbrook College into 2nd-5th year for September 2026 are now open. The form is available on our website - ***www.woodbrookcollege.ie.***



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CHRISTMAS FAIR 2025

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who took part in the Christmas Fair. The recent turned out to be a tremendous success, which, as many know, comes from months of careful planning, dedication, and teamwork - certainly not just a few days of effort before the fair. We truly couldn't have achieved this without your involvement.

Special thanks to all our parishioners and the wider community for their generous donations of gifts and bottles, purchasing raffle tickets at the Church doors and Resource Centre, and asisting with ticket sales in the weeks leading up to the fair.

To all our volunteers whose commitment over that weekend made everything possible - from gathering an impressive number of gifts from local shops and businesses in Shankill, Bray, and nearby areas, to working on both traditional and new stalls, and to those who kept the kithen running seamlessly.

Through your generosity, we raised €21,700 (after expenses) for our Parish Maintenance Fund, and for that, we are sincerely greatful. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this outstanding success, especially those who generously provided our top five prizes.

The success of the fair exemplifies the spirit of coorperation and generosity that distinguishes our Parish. Once again, thank you to all who contributed to making this year's Christmas Fair both memorale and successful.

Fr. Emmet O'Hara, SCA

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THANK YOU

On behalf of St. Anne's Parish, Shankill we wish to thank all of the following businesses in Shankill and Bray for their contributions to our Christmas Fair.

Bannon Jewellers, Bray
Boots Chemist
Brady's of Shankill
Bray Footwear, Main Street
Ceira Lambert
Centra Rathsallagh
CORE Credit Union, Shankill
Diesel, Bray
Dubray Books, Bray
DW Roofing Service
Eikon Beauty Shankill
F&D Meat, Bray
Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel
Fleurtique, Bray
Flying Tiger, Bray
Gremma Shankill
Hayes Butchers, Bray
Health Matters, Bray
Hiltons Pharmacy, Bray
Marion Travel
Market Fresh, BBQ Centre
McCabe's Pharmacy, Shankill
McCabe's Pharmacy, Bray
McCartan's Pharmacy, Shankill
Myrtle Boutique, Bray
O'Brien's (Mermaid)
O'Doherty School Supplies
Patrick O'Kelly Jewellers, Bray
Peter Marks, Bray
PM O'Loughlin's BBQ Centre
Quinns Pharmacy, Bray
Shankill Pharmacy
Solo Salon Supplies, Bray
Spar, Shankill
Supervalu, Castle Street, Bray
Swift Clean, BBQ Centre
Tesco Express, Shankill
Texaco Service Station, Dublin Road, Shankill
The Graduate, Killiney
The Larder, Bray
The Royal Hotel, Bray
Valu Market, Bray
Whelehan's Wines
Windy Ridge Garden Centre

We wish you all every success in 2025.

SCHOOL NEWS: SCOIL MHUIRE

Scoil Mhuire in Court
Students had fun being part of a mock trial with TD Barry Ward in action showing us how the Irish judicial system works.

Visit to Shankill Seniors Centre
Mr. Quane's Class visited Shankill Senior Centre to share their books that they had made. Both young and old generations enjoyed the chats and meeting each other.

Scoil Mhuire
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Induction meeting for parents and orientation day for children details to follow
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Engineer Visit
An engineer recently visited the class and ignited their imaginations in what can be made.

Santa's Reindeer!
We had a surprise visit from Diarmuid just before the Christmas holidays. Diarmuid, one of the reindeers in training, dropped in to say hello to the boys and girls.

Ms. Kenny's Christmas Concert
Ms. Kenny's 1st and 2nd class delighted everyone at their Christmas concert with a wonderful performance full of festive cheer. The children confidently recited a lovely poem and sang their songs with great enthusiasm, smiles, and clear voices. Their hard work and practice truly shone through, making the performance a joyful highlight of the celebration and a proud moment for Ms Kenny and all who attended.

ASK A COUNCILLOR: CLLR. CARRIE SMYTH

◆ LITTER BINS

I received representations from constituents regarding the removal of the litter bin beside the Texaco garage on Shanganagh Road. I raised this with the Executive Engineer in the Cleansing Section and received the following reply:
"The Cleansing Engineer reports the Big Belly bin was removed from the bus stop on Shanganagh Road following the installation of road poles. Due to the new layout, it is no longer possible to safely access, empty, and service the bin using the council vehicle without posing risks to staff and road users."

I then requested the litter bin reinstated in the area and I received the following reply from the Cleansing Section:
"Thank you for your request to relocate the litter bin. Please note that the Cleansing team needs to assess the area first, as recent changes to traffic measures may affect the placement. We will identify a safe and suitable location for the bin, if one exists.The final decision regarding the relocation will be made during the scheduled bin review in March/ April 2026."

I received representations from constituents regarding the removal of the litter bin in Shankill Village at the northbound bus stop. I received the following reply from the Cleansing Section:

"This request has been added to the Smart Bin Review 2025 to 2026 list. It will be considered as part of a next annual bin review in March/ April 2026."

◆ PLAY EQUIPMENT – PLAYGROUND, SHANGANAGH PARK

I raised the matter of the condition and safety of the play equipment with the Parks Department after receiving representations. I received the following reply:
"This was a temporary fix, we hope to be replacing this item and others in this playground in January '26."

◆ CHANGING PLACES TOILET - SHANGANAGH CEMETERY

I raised the matter of the changing places toilet in Shanganagh Cemetery with the Parks Department after receiving a number of representations as it was closed for a number of weeks. I received the following reply:

"We are currently looking to have this work done. As it is a specialist door and lock it cant be fixed by an ordinary locksmith. We are working to have the original company that installed the door to come fix it for us. We hope to have the work completed in the coming weeks."

◆ E1 BUS SERVICE

After receiving numerous representations regarding the E1 bus service I contacted the NTA (National Transport Authority. I received the following reply from the Public Affairs Manager:

"I refer to your inquiry dated 8th of October 2025. We have received a record number of public representative queries and Parliamentary Questions this year which has led to a delay in responses to some queries. In that context, please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to this query.

The NTA and Dublin Bus are aware of the capacity issues on the E1 and across a number of other routes on the public transport network. The NTA has recently developed a new BI (Business Intelligence) tool, using ticketing data to identify where capacity issues are being experienced across the network by route and time of day. The NTA engages with Dublin Bus and other operators on a regular basis to assess and prioritise a list of routes requiring intervention based upon the available data.

Any additional trips will be assigned based on need and subject to the availability of resources including funding, drivers, and buses as well as operational readiness. Further, the Authority has recently undertaken capacity surveys on a series of routes, including the E1, to verify the data driven approach being adopted. Based on the results of these surveys, additional trips were allocated on route E1 from 2nd of November 2025. Route E2 is currently being examined, along with other routes identified through the tool, to identify where to prioritise further capacity interventions, subject to the availability of funding and resources.

We have also asked Dublin Bus to investigate the specific issues raised in your correspondence. I trust that the above is of assistance."

◆ HOUSING SITES FORMED PART OF TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT

Question: To ask the Chief Executive what stage of development are the sites that formed part of the Tripartite Agreement that included Shanganagh Castle?

Reply: Two of the three plots have been developed, Shanganagh Castle and the new Woodbrook Estate. The third plot is the Woodbrook DART site and will accommodate over 200 social and affordable units. The Council is currently working with the developers to progress this site through the Competitive Dialogue process, and they are currently preparing documentation to start the Part 8 Planning process.

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ASK A COUNCILLOR: CLLR. JIM GILDEA

◆ WOODBROOK ESTATE PART V QUESTION:

Question: To ask the Chief Executive how many Part V social and affordable purchase units have been handed over to the Council/Housing Bodies to date at Woodbrook Estate and to provide a timeline for the provision of further such units at the estate?

Reply: Part V Social units delivered to date to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

26 Units: Agreement signed and awaiting delivery of social units to an Approved Housing Body

33 units: Affordable Purchase units delivered on Council land for Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Co.

30 Units: Future development on Northern Lands

35 Social units and 34 Affordable units: Part V Agreement still under negotiation on a later phase of the Northern Lands has the potential to deliver additional Social & Affordable units in 2027/2028.

◆ WOODBROOK COLLEGE ALL-WEATHER PITCH

Question: To ask the Chief Executive to provide a progress report on the provision of an all-weather pitch at Woodbrook College and to include a realistic time-line for commencement of works on the site?

Reply: Woodbrook College are in the process of finalising their planning application for a new school. It is anticipated that this will be lodged in Q1 2026. Following this, a further planning application will be lodged or Part 8 will be initiated for the all weather pitch. The exact time-line for commencement of works is not fully known at this time.

◆ RATHMICHAEL PLANNING

Question: To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the provision of a Local Area Plan for Rathmichael and to outline which legislation will be used when designing the plan, how any new legislation differs from the existing legislation, if the new legislation has been fully enacted as of the date of this meeting and when the residents in the area can expect the new plan to be implemented?

Reply: The preparation of an area plan for Rathmichael is currently underway. Pre-Draft public consultation was undertaken earlier this year. A Chief Executive's report was prepared based on the submissions received and a briefing on this report was provided to the Elected Members in September 2025. The existing plan making framework is changing with the enactment of the Planning and Development Act 2024, and this is particularly relevant at the local level where new categories of area-based plans are to be introduced including urban area plans, priority area plans and co-ordinated area plans. These will in time replace local area plans under the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. An Implementation Plan for the Planning and Development Act 2024 was published in March 2025. It stated that the provisions of the new Act relating to Plans, Part 3, would commence in mid-2025. The Implementation Plan was updated in August 2025, and no further update was provided in relation to the commencement of the chapters of the Act that relate to development plans and local level plans. In that regard Chapters 5 and 6 of Part 3 of the Act relate to development plans and local level plans and they have yet to be commenced. They are expected to

Councillor
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086 8131456
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Cllr Jim Gildea
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be commenced in the short term. This does not inhibit the continued preparation of an area plan for Rathmichael. It is anticipated that an area plan for Rathmichael will be published for public consultation in Q4 2026. Its adoption and subsequent implementation will likely occur in Q2/Q3 2027.

◆ SHANGANAGH CASTLE ESTATE.

Motion: That the Chief Executive brings a report to this committee regarding the problems being encountered by residents in Shanganagh Castle Estate, Shankill and that he outlines what actions are being taken to remedy the problems as soon as possible.

Report: The matters referred to are issues that are occurring in the Cost Rental units in Shanganagh Castle. These units were let by the LDA. The owner's management company, which was set up by the LDA, is responsible for all aspects of the management and maintenance of these units as the tenants are private citizens. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council has no authority in regard to these units.

Note: Following the above reply I have been in contact with the LDA and the Management Company to seek a resolution. Some progress has been made in resolving the problems while some issues are ongoing. These are being addressed by the Management Company and the LDA.

SAGE

by Patrick Davey

HAPPY 2026 TO ALL READERS.

But now a reality check:
How many of us wish we had been living in southern California or the Philippines in 2025? Places where lives have been lost due to drought, rainstorms, fires and hurricanes all made much more probable and severe due to the climate crisis. Meanwhile we probably enjoyed the summer we had here at home, the hottest.

Will this be the year when we get the message through to our Government that Climate Change and the problems it will bring will not wait until a convenient time for us to deal with them? The longer we delay the worse the outcomes and the more expensive it becomes to take action. As of today [3rd January], Arizona is finding it necessary to change its laws so that it can control pumping of water from rapidly depleting aquifers where the water is being used to grow alfalfa by a Saudi Arabian company that has been refused permission in its own country. Here at home, we are allowing yet more data centres in the greater Dublin area, with their enormous demand for purified water, when we know that water supply is a limiting factor in much needed housing developments.

On a more positive note:
St. Anne's Resource Centre may still be closed when you read this because the building is undergoing a major retrofit to bring it somewhere near modern energy efficiency standards. This has only been possible because SAGE was able to win one of the new Community Energy Efficiency grants, in this case valued at €100,000. It is great news that other organisations in Shankill are applying for similar grants for the coming year. It was particularly gratifying that SAGE was approached to give some help in the application process because we understand the language and some of the relevant technology which keeps developing year by year.

Government decision making
We, as a people, need to make clear to our Government that dealing with the climate crisis must be made a top priority, along with housing and health issues. Taking real and effective action will require taking hard decisions and possibly further changes in law relating to national infrastructure. Possibly the most effective change would be to mandate a thorough and staged process of engagement with local populations to ensure that they are fully informed of the necessity, the process and the benefits locally of new projects. Anyone with experience of major projects knows full well how essential it is to engage with the communities who will be affected, at the earliest possible stage, if the development is to be effective, timely and done without costly and wasteful delays.

It was depressing to read recently that a proposal for a major wind farm development off the coast of Connemara has been pulled due to local objections, primarily based on the fact, so it seems, that the pylons change the view. Yet, under Irish law, there is no right to a view though it can be a consideration in a planning permission. It is hard to see how protection of a view could apply to structures six or ten kilometres out to sea. Another objection to offshore windfarms is that they will damage the local ecology and fishing industry but as more windfarms are built evidence is accumulating that rather than depleting the environment they actually augment it by providing safe breeding grounds for fish etc. The same issues are being debated around the windfarms being proposed for the East Coast.

SAGE would be delighted to have any engagement about such topics as retrofitting, solar panels, energy saving, maybe an evening to discuss the Climate Crisis and what we can do about it as individuals or as a community. If you have ideas which you would like to discuss and develop, SAGE may be in a position to help.

SAGE works with Shankill Tidy Towns to our mutual benefit. The scoring system used for the Tidy Towns competition includes a significant number of points relating to care for the environment, energy and water conservation and so on.

Let us hope that 2026 will be the year in which the juggernaut of inaction and objection changes to one of positive support for the many changes necessary if Ireland is to contribute, at scale, to the international problems of the climate crisis and also to avoid the potentially shocking waste of being required to pay €26 billion in fines for our failure to reduce our climate changing gases as required by law, both national and EU.

SAGE can be contacted at: ***Sageshankill@gmail.com***

SHANKILL SENIOR CENTRE

by Patrick Davey

A Season of Gratitude, Celebration and New Beginnings at Shankill Seniors Centre

As we look back on a busy and rewarding Christmas period, everyone at Shankill Seniors Centre is proud to reflect on what was a truly uplifting time for our community. The festive season not only brought joy and celebration but also highlighted the strength, generosity, and dedication that underpin everything we do.

A particular highlight was our successful involvement in supporting the Shankill Christmas Day Swim. Thanks to the incredible efforts of organisers, swimmers, sponsors, and supporters, the event was a wonderful example of community spirit in action. We are deeply grateful to have been included in this fantastic fundraiser, which provided valuable support for the centre and the services we deliver to older members of our community.

The Christmas period was capped off in the best possible way, with a big Christmas party for all our members. The centre was filled with laughter, music, good food, and festive cheer as members came together to celebrate the season. It was a fitting end to a wonderful year and a reminder of the importance of connection and shared moments.

Another very special moment during this time was our celebration of International Volunteers Day, where we took the opportunity to acknowledge the extraordinary volunteers who are the backbone of Shankill Seniors Centre. Their dedication ensures the continued success of our Meals on Wheels service, providing both nourishment and vital social contact, as well as the wide range of activities enjoyed by our Day Centre members. We are also fortunate to have volunteers who give their time and talents in so many ways, from running our highly successful book sales, to our singers and musicians who bring joy, energy, and companionship through music and song.

As we move into the year ahead, excitement is building with new activities already planned. Among these is a boxing programme for seniors, designed to support fitness, confidence, and wellbeing. This unique initiative will conclude with a final round and a special visit to Monkstown Boxing Club, promising a fun and empowering experience for participants.

Shankill Seniors Centre is always delighted to welcome new volunteers and new members. Whether you would like to get involved by giving your time, sharing a skill, or simply joining us to enjoy our activities and social events, there is a place for everyone. Our centre thrives on inclusion, friendship, and community spirit.

If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a member, please drop into the centre or contact us directly, we would love to meet you and welcome you into our community.

Stephen McGovern *Trading as*

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Email: **stephen-mcgovern@hotmail.com**

PLANNING NOTICES *compiled by Cllr. Jim Gildea*

We are aware that some of the notices about planning applications and decisions are out of date by the time you receive your SCAN but we believe our readers would like to know what is going on in their area. We would like to remind you to keep a look out for new planning notices and, if you need further information, go to the Planning Office in Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Hall, Marine Road and request to see the plans.

D20A/0321/E Extension Of Duration Of Permission Date: 11/11/2025
Signature Capital, Clontra House, Quinns Road, Shankill, Dublin 18 (A Protected Structure)
Permission for the construction of a new two-storey, 267sqm, four-bedroom detached house (replacing existing outbuilding) with all associated works plus an attached car port using existing entrance driveway, together with connections to existing public services and drainage. Clontra House is a protected structure, RPS ref. 1811.

D25A/0877/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 19/11/2025
Regina Gleeson, 22, Clifton Park, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18N280
Permission for non habitable attic conversion with roof windows to front. Retention permission for bay window extension to front & extended vehicle access and associated ancillary works.

D25A/0882/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 19/11/2025
Aiden and Laura Durkan, Lynwood, Castlegate, Ferndale Road, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18N526
Permission for 1. Construction of an extension at first floor level over the existing flat roof to the north of the existing dwelling; 2. Removal of the existing pitched roof and construction of an extension at first floor level to the south of the existing dwelling; 3. Construction of a new flat roofed single storey extension to the rear (west) of the existing house; 4. Construction of a new single storey dining room extension with glazed roof to the south of the existing dwelling; 5. Construction of a new single storey open-sided carport to the north of the existing dwelling; 6. Alterations to the existing fenestration on all elevations; 7. Internal alterations and refurbishment works to existing house; 8. Installation of a new wastewater treatment system; 9. Installation of new hard landscaping to perimeter of house; 10. The development will include all associated site development and drainage works;

D25A/0887/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 20/11/2025
Peadar and Marian Ward, Kiltuc, Dublin Road, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18K5N8
Permission for development on site to rear of existing dwelling comprising demolition of garage and subsequent provision of vehicular gateway from Rathmichael Park, Shankill on north-west boundary, subdivision boundary wall, part two-storey / part single-storey dwelling, replacement garage and associated site works including part raised ground levels.

D15A/0826/E1 Extension Of Duration Of Permission Date: 28/11/2025
Patrick and Barbara Pierce, Ardvarna Lodge, Falls Road, Shankill, Co. Dublin
Permission for the construction of a new two storey with single storey wing, detached, 2 bedroom plus study dwelling house (173sqm) with new entrance gate from Falls Road. Works include the provision of a waste water treatment system and surface water soakaways and new 2.1m high fence to internal boundary to form the site area to the west and south. The existing mature screen planting to Falls Road is to be retained and protected. The site is within the curtilage of a protected structure, Ardvarna Lodge.

D25A/0905/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 26/11/2025
Knockfodda Enterprises Ltd, Brady's Of Shankill, Dublin Road, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18E1W0
Permission for 1. Retention of planter boxes and pergola with retractable roof and timber screening to external seating area as constructed and retention of removable freestanding screen to external seating area to the southern side of the existing public house. 2. Permission to vary Condition No. 2 of Planning Register Reference No. D24A/0039 (An Bord Pleanala Reference ABP-321139-24), to permit a revised minimum pedestrian footpath width of 2.0 metres along Stonebridge Close adjacent to the planter boxes and pergola, in lieu of the condition requirement for a minimum width of 2.2 metres.

D25A/0922/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 28/11/2025
Danny Ballard, 210, New Vale, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18RP54
Permission sought for a new driveway entrance for a Vehicular Access.

D25A/0923 Seeking Permission Date: 01/12/2025
John and Aleksandra Quinn, 14, Aubrey Grove, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18X956
Permission sought for the demolition of existing: 1. Ground floor -front & side single-storey hipped roof over existing porch, playroom/office, toilet & utility room. 2. Rear single storey flat roof & roof light over existing kitchen. 3. Rear single storey conservatory structure. 4.Rear / side concrete storage structure all to be removed. Construction of: 1. New ground floor single storey front extension, incorporating new front door entrance with canopy structure over, new window into playroom/office extension. 2. New flat roof over existing side playroom/office, toilet & utility room structure. 3. New flat roof light into existing toilet. 4.New single storey rear extension, comprising of new tv room with flat roof lights over. new minor internal alterations to ground floor level. Existing vehicular entrance to be altered, proposed new vehicular entrance to be made wider to take 2 no vehicles. energy retrofit to existing & proposed dwelling, including external insulation wrap to external walls, replacement of windows, doors to existing two-storey semi-detached dwelling and associated site works.

D25A/0946/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 08/12/2025
Gavin Fogarty, Rose Cottage, 26 Cherrywood Road, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18P4A7
The development will consist of: the relocation of the existing vehicular access northwards to improve sightlines; the provision of a pedestrian gate; the setting back of the western boundary onto Cherrywood Road by up to c. 0.7 metres, widening the existing footpath; and associated works.

D25A/0950/WEB Seeking Permission Date: 09/12/2025
Whitefern Rock Limited, Coltsfoot, Dublin Road, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18F8W6
Permission sought for the demolition of existing dwelling house (313.14m²) and removal of existing front boundary wall. The construction of a new stone boundary wall with pedestrian access and new vehicular site entrance onto the Dublin road. The construction of 35 Apartments in 3 separate apartment blocks ranging in height from 3 to 4 floors (with floors 3 & 4 set back). Block A – 10 Apartments consisting of 5 X 1 bed apartments, 3 X 2 bed apartments and 2 X 3 bed triplex units and communal bin store.
Block B -12 Apartments consisting of 5 X 1 bed apartments, 4 X 2 bed apartments and 3 X 3 bed triplex units. Block C – 13 Apartments consisting of 5 X 1 bed apartments, 5 X 2 bed apartments and 3 X 3 bed triplex units. Block C will also accommodate an MV Substation, communal bin storage, secure bulk storage, secure bicycle storage, EV charging area for mobility scooters. 18 X car parking spaces including 2 X car share parking spaces, 67 X bicycle parking spaces.
All associated site works relevant to the development

D25A/0981 Seeking Permission Date: 18/12/2025
Peter Clegg, 53 Shanganagh Cliffs, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18C522
Permission is sought for the demolition and replacement of existing rear sheds and side walls and the construction of a new two storey dwelling with all associated site development works, drainage, driveway and landscape to accommodate works

PLANNING DECISIONS

D25B/0530/WEB Grant Permission Date: 12/11/2025
Colette & David Condon, 69, Hazelwood, Shankill, Dublin 18, D18X0F6
Permission for attic conversion with hip roof to Half hip Dutch gable to accommodate stairs, with roof windows to rear to allow conversion as non habitable storage space all with associated ancillary works.

D25B/0575 Grant Permission Date: 01/12/2025
Gary & Luisa McDonagh, 84, Eaton Wood Grove, Shankill, Dublin, D18W620
Permission for an upgrade to the existing conservatory, construction of additional utility space to the side of the existing dwelling and associated site works to the rear of the existing dwelling.

D25A/0787/WEB Refuse Permission Date: 10/12/2025
Charton Homes Limited, Sites 1-10, Carpendale, Ferndale Road, Shankhill, Dublin 18
Seeking permission to complete sites 1–10 from current stage of construction to completion with minor alterations to elevations (b) and all ancillary works. The subject sites were previously granted permission under planning application D15A/0403 (extended under extension of duration D15A/0403/E) with modifications approved under Planning References D25A/0058/WEB (Sites 1, 2 & 5), D25A/0233/WEB (Sites 7, 8 & 9), D25A/0112/WEB (Sites 4 & 6), D25A/0330/WEB (Site 10), D25A/0296/WEB (Site 3).

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